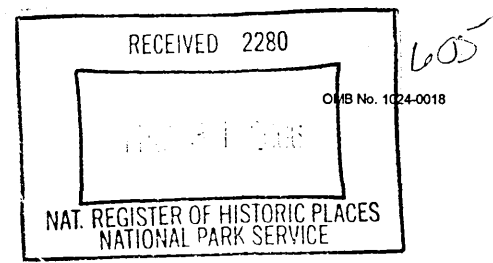


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Union Jail
Other names/site number NEHBS #CC17-007

2. Location

Street & number 1st and Rock Street Not for publication
City or town Union Vicinity
State Nebraska Code NE County Cass Code 025 Zip code 68455

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael J. ...
Signature of certifying official
Director, Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

May 24, 2006
Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 see continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.
 see continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Elson H. Beall 7.12.06

[Signature]
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- Private
- Public-local
- Public-state
- Public-federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		Buildings
		Sites
		Structures
		Objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT: correctional facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation CONCRETE

Walls CONCRETE

Roof CONCRETE

Other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B Removed from its original location.
C A birthplace or a grave.
D A cemetery.
E A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F A commemorative property.
G Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

c. 1916 - c. 1940

Significant Dates

c. 1916

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
Previously listed in the National Register
Previously determined eligible by the National Register
Designated a National Historic Landmark
Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location for additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local Government
University
Other
Name of repository:

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References (place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet).

Table with columns: Zone, Easting, Northing. Rows 1-4. Row 4 contains: [] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Greg Miller, Preservation Historian
organization Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office date March 2006
street & number 1500 "R" Street telephone (402) 471-4787
city or town Lincoln state NE zip code 68501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name/title Village of Union
street & number P.O. Box 127 telephone (402) 263-3865
city or town Union state NE zip code 68455

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determined eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, (15 USC 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

Union is a small community (pop. 260, 2000) in Cass County in southeast Nebraska. The Union Jail is located on a partially developed block immediately behind (south) the town's commercial district. The land on the block west of the jail is vacant. Across the street from this vacant ground are the railroad tracks.

Built c. 1916, the one-story jail measures approximately 12 by 10 feet and is constructed of concrete. The arched roof has stepped gables at either end. The entrance is located on the main (east) façade. In 1926, the original door was forcibly removed in an attempted jailbreak. It was replaced with a metal bar door which still exists today. A window on the south side is also enclosed with metal bars.

The interior is a single room. As with the rest of the building the floor and ceiling are concrete. Originally the jail contained a wood-burning stove. The only remnant of this feature is a circular patch in the ceiling through which the chimney once extended. With only these modest changes the overall integrity of the jail is very good.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

Established in 1890, Union is located in southeastern Nebraska. Although the community never attained a large population it has maintained a relatively consistent populace. In 1900 Union consisted of 282 residents with this number rising to 302 in 1910. The town reached its peak population of 364 in 1940.

As Union grew from its founding in 1890 to a modest population in 1910, village officials became more concerned with law and order in the community. As a consequence a decision was made to erect a jail. No official records exist indicating when the jail was built. However, the date 1916 is etched on the interior concrete wall providing the best evidence of the jail's construction date.

The jail is situated just behind the commercial district on Main Street and near the railroad tracks. This convenient location allowed for the incarceration of troublemakers from town as well as for those coming in by rail. Although not overly utilized, the jail certainly served its purpose in the community.

While there is no question the Union Jail is a good candidate for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the Period of Significance is not so easily definable. Village records regarding the jail are not available. However, based on historical research the dates specified for the Period of Significance, ca. 1916 – ca. 1940 are appropriate and reasonable. As noted, the 1916 date etched on the interior wall provides circumstantial evidence of the construction date. The ending date is not as definable, but no less justifiable. After 1940 Union's population began to decline, and common wisdom in the community indicates that the jail was rarely used after 1940. It is reasonable to suggest that ca. 1940 is a logical concluding date.

The Union Jail is significant because it represents a period in the community's history when the local officials in Union thought the town required such a facility in order to maintain law and order. Since there was no marshal's office or city hall in which the jail could be located, the village decided to construct a free-standing structure. The establishment of the jail as the only municipal building in Union reinforces the village's concern for public safety. For these reasons the Union Jail is significant at the local level under Criterion A as an example of a jail designed to meet the needs of a small community.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 9-10 Page 1

Bibliography

Lincoln. Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. *Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Form*, CC17-007.

Skalek, Mary, ed. History of Cass County, Nebraska. Dallas: Curtis Media Corp., 1989.

The Plattsmouth Journal

The Omaha World Herald

Verbal Boundary Description

Described as the South 68 1/2 feet of lots 10-11, Block 1, South Union Drive Addition, Union, Cass County, Nebraska.

Boundary Justification

Boundary includes all historically associated real estate.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Union Jail

Name of Property

Cass County, Nebraska

County and State

Section Photos Page 1

Photographs

The information below pertains to the following 5 photographs:

Union City Jail
Union, Cass County, Nebraska
Photographer: Greg Miller, Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office
February 2006
Negatives in the collection of the Nebraska State Historical Society

- Photo 1 of 5** View of exterior looking W
- Photo 2 of 5** View of exterior looking NW
- Photo 3 of 5** View of exterior looking NE
- Photo 4 of 5** View of exterior looking SE
- Photo 5 of 5** View of interior